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five years. He was a blacksmith, a member of the Christian church and of the Masonic order. In 1843 he married Miss Harriet Massey, of Franklin, who, with two married daughters, survives him.

At the time of his death he was a month and ten days older than the State of Illinois.

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#### MRS. T. D. EAMES ANSWERS FINAL SUMMONS.

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Mrs. T. D. Eames, one of Jacksonville's oldest and most highly respected citizens, passed peacefully away Saturday morning, December 11, 1909, at her late residence, 622 West State street, at the age of 93 years.

Mrs. Eames, if she had lived until February would have been 94 years of age. She was the daughter of Samuel Murdock and was born in South Farmingham, Mass., Feb. 7, 1816. In her girlhood days she resided at Hopkins Springs, Mass. She was married in Rochester, N. Y. to T. D. Eames, and together the young couple took their wedding trip to the western country. The journey was made by canal and stage and required three weeks to complete the journey. The first stop in Illinois was at Chicago. From Chicago to Jacksonville the distance was covered by stage. Mrs. Eames well remembered the appearance of the metropolis of Illinois, which was then a mere village. As they journeyed on the town of Peoria was pointed out and Mrs. Eames inquired where the town was, as she could only distinguish one house. Jacksonville was reached via Beardstown and the river town then contained less than a score of houses. Arriving here Mr. Eames took his young bride to a hotel, then located on the square. Later Mr. and Mrs. Eames began housekeeping on Springfield street, now east State street, opposite the Centenary church. In 1840 Mr. Eames bought the property now occupied by the family and erected a cottage. At that time there was not a building

between Prairie street and Illinois college. Later additions were built and the house is now one of the well known residences of the city.

There were two children born of the marriage—Edwin, who passed away in infancy, and Charles M., who for a number of years was proprietor and publisher of the Jacksonville Daily Journal. He died July 30, 1887, aged 42 years. The father passed away on June 17, 1879. Four grandchildren survive—Mrs. Harriet Eames Lander, of Jacksonville; Dwight, of Valdosta, Ga.; Charles M. and Susan Frances, of China; also four great grandchildren—Caroline Abigail, Ellen Joyce, David Stanley Landers and Clare Ross Eames.

Mrs. Eames had lived in her late home for a period of 69 years and it has been one where all the Christian graces have been exemplified and the great strength of her character and life has been shed abroad to everyone with whom she associated. She was a woman of exceptionally bright intellect and until a few years past was well read on the topics of the day and could discuss them with a ready flow of language.

In 1837 Mr. and Mrs. Eames united with the First Presbyterian church and Mrs. Eames was the oldest member of the State street church, with which organization the latter church was merged some years ago.

The church was ever upon her heart and she was always devising some means whereby she could help some one to lead a better Christian life.

There is something beautiful in the passing away of such a grand life; beautiful because it had been spent in the service of the Great Master whom she loved so dearly; beautiful because she did not live for self, but for others; beautiful because the sunshine she had scattered during her long life will continue to cast its beams over all the earth. To few is given the privilege of living over such an important epoch of the world's

history and Mrs. Eames was never so happy as when she was reciting the great advancement which she had seen made in every department of human activity.

Three years ago Mrs. Eames celebrated her 90th birthday, at which time many of her friends gathered at her home to bring greetings and to talk over the former days.